

INDIANA'S COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS

How are academic standards adopted in Indiana?

- [Indiana Code](#) says the State Board of Education shall adopt clear, concise and jargon free academic standards for each grade level (K-12) that are comparable to national and international academic standards.
 - Indiana followed this process to adopt the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), the same one used to adopt all previous Indiana academic standards.
 - Indiana's General Assembly does not adopt academic standards.
- The federal government is **not** involved in the development or adoption of state academic standards. Indiana's adoption of the CCSS has been entirely voluntary, as it is for each state.
- The development of the CCSS has been a state-led and student-focused initiative from the very beginning.

Timeline for adopting the CCSS in Indiana

- November 2007 – Discussions around college and career ready standards began among state leaders at the Annual Policy Forum for the Council for Chief State School Officers.
- June 2009 - Indiana joined the state-led initiative to create a common, rigorous set of academic standards for math and English/Language Arts.
- September 2009 – Public comment opened on first draft of the standards.
- February 2010 – IDOE reviewed and provided feedback on the quality of the standards. Because of Indiana's history of high standards, our academic standards were used as one of the exemplars of state standards in the country, and IDOE was continuously consulted throughout the drafting process.
- March 2010 – Indiana's State Board of Education (SBOE) discussed the CCSS.
- March 2010 – The second public draft of the CCSS was released. IDOE convened a team of educators from K-12 and higher education to review the new draft and provide feedback on the strengths and weaknesses.
- April 2010 – Indiana's SBOE announced that action on adopting the CCSS would be taken in August 2010.
- May 2010 – Dr. Bennett and key IDOE staff worked on additional improvements and additions to the standards.
- June 2010 – The final version of the CCSS was publicly released.
- August 2010 – The Indiana Education Roundtable recommended adoption, and the SBOE voted unanimously to adopt the CCSS as Indiana's academic standards.

The CCSS are high standards and are the best standards for Indiana's students

- Indiana chose the CCSS because they are the best standards for Hoosier students.
- Indiana's academic standards were already strong. The Common Core State Standards enhance the focus and depth of our academic standards – without sacrificing our high expectations for students.
- As has been the practice with Indiana's previous standards, we are able to review and supplement the CCSS as necessary.
 - At the time of adoption, Indiana's Education Roundtable pledged to continuously examine and update these new standards as needed to best serve our students and educators.
 - Local school corporations retain the ability to supplement the CCSS with additional content based on the needs of their students.
- The CCSS only outline what content students need to learn; educators determine how to teach that content.

How will the CCSS improve student achievement?

- The CCSS are designed to be sure every student leaves high school prepared for college and the workforce.
- The CCSS are clearer and deeper than previous academic standards.
 - The CCSS are actually more rigorous and focus on in-depth mastery of topics as opposed to previous standards that were characterized as “a mile wide but only an inch deep.”
 - They are more robust and reflect relevant knowledge and skills necessary after high school.

Implementation Timeline for Hoosier Students and Educators

- The implementation of the CCSS began during the 2011-2012 school year with kindergarten classrooms, expanding to K-1 in 2012-2013 and K-2 in 2013-2014. The transition will be fully implemented in all K-12 classrooms during the 2014-2015 school year.
- Our focus must continue to be on supporting our teachers and students as the implementation unfolds.

Learn more about Indiana’s Common Core State Standards at

<http://doe.in.gov/commoncore>.